

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 PCH-02 /015 R

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R 090026Z SEP 77

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215842

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EFIS, ETRD, PDIP, KS, KN, JA, UR, US

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE
FROM: EA/K - MR. MAYHEW

1. FURTHER ARRESTS (CONF).

IN SPITE OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF SLIGHTLY
GREATER MODERATION TOWARD DISSENT, ARRESTS CONTINUE FOR
THOSE WHO GO TOO FAR IN THEIR CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT
OR PRESIDENT PARK. RECENT EXAMPLES INCLUDE A POET
CHARGED WITH VIOLATING EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 9 BY ALLOWING
PUBLICATION OF HIS POEM, "DIARY OF A SLAVE", IN A JAPANESE
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MAGAZINE. IN ANOTHER CASE, A CLERGYMAN HAS BEEN ARRESTED
FOR CIRCULATING A SPEECH ACCUSING PRESIDENT PARK OF
LEFTIST TENDENCIES. THE MINISTER WHO MADE THE ORIGINAL
SPEECH WAS ARRESTED IN JULY.

2. FRASER STAFF EXAMINES KIM TAE-CHUNG FILE (UNC).

STAFF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE KOREAN INVESTIGATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE HAVE SPENT THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS REVIEWING OUR VOLUMINOUS FILES ON THE KIM TAE-CHUNG KIDNAPPING AND ON RADIO OF FREE ASIA. WE HAVE ALLOWED THEM TO TAKE NOTES, BUT NOT TURNED OVER COPIES OF THE ACTUAL DOCUMENTS.

3. ROK-GOJ MINISTERIAL YIELDS NO CONCRETE RESULTS (UNC).

AT THE ANNUAL ROK-GOJ MINISTERIAL IN TOKYO SEPTEMBER 5-6 THE ROKG SOUGHT TO ADVANCE THREE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES: GREATER JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC INVOLVEMENT IN CHANGING RELATIONSHIPS IN NORTHEAST ASIA; EARLY ACTION ON IMPLEMENTATION LEGISLATION FOR THE CONTINENTAL SHELF TREATY; AND "SPECIAL CONSIDERATION" TO REDUCE KOREA'S LARGE TRADE DEFICIT WITH JAPAN. THE KOREANS EXPECTATIONS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN LARGELY DISAPPOINTED. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE EXPRESSED (1) JAPANESE INTEREST IN CLOSE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND KOREA ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL; (2) RECOGNITION OF THE DESIRABILITY OF EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SHELF TREATY; AND (3) SUPPORT FOR A BALANCED EXPANSION OF TWO-WAY TRADE.

4. NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATS COME OUT OF THE WOODWORK (CONF).

IN THE PAST THREE WEEKS, U.S. AND JAPANESE DIPLOMATS HAVE HAD THE DUBIOUS PLEASURE OF FINDING THEIR NORTH CONFIDENTIAL

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KOREAN COLLEAGUES UNCHARACTERISTICALLY CIVIL IN SOCIAL SITUATIONS. THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE SHAKEN JAPANESE HANDS AND EXCHANGED PLEASANTRIES IN BOTH KUALA LUMPUR AND BELGRADE. IN TWO AFRICAN POSTS, NORTH KOREANS APPROACHED U.S. EMBASSY OFFICERS IN REASONABLY CIVIL TERMS. MIXED IN WITH THE SMALL TALK, THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE URGED U.S. TO READ KIM IL-SONG'S JUNE "LE MONDE" INTERVIEW VERY CAREFULLY. THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MESSAGE IS THAT PYONGYANG IS UNHAPPY THAT THE TROOP WITHDRAWAL WILL NOT BE COMPLETE AND THE TIMETABLE IS TOO SLOW.

5. NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER PLANS TO ATTEND UNGA SESSION (LOU).

USUN HAS BEEN ASKED BY THE NORTH KOREANS IN NEW YORK IF WE WOULD BE ABLE TO ISSUE A VISA TO FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM AND A PARTY OF FIVE NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS WHO PLAN TO VISIT NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 27 THROUGH OCTOBER 5. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1973 THAT HO HAS GRACED THE UN.

6. JAPANESE DIET DELEGATION INITIALS PRIVATE FISHERIES

AGREEMENT (LOU).

EARLY SEPTEMBER 7, THE JAPANESE DIET DELEGATION INITIALED A FISHERIES TREATY WITH THE NORTH KOREANS WHICH, SUBJECT TO JAPANESE GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES, WILL ALLOW JAPANESE FISHERMEN TO FISH IN THE NORTH'S ECONOMIC ZONE, BUT WILL EXCLUDE THEM FROM THE MILITARY ZONES ON BOTH COASTS. AS A "CONCESSION" FROM KIM IL-SONG TO SMALL JAPANESE FISHERMEN, JAPANESE BOATS WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THE ZONE FOR A "TEMPORARY" PERIOD BEFORE THE AGREEMENT COMES INTO FORCE. THE CONFEREES ALSO AGREED TO CONTINUE JAPANESE-NORTH KOREAN TRADE UNDER THE 1973 AGREEMENT AND TO HOLD ADDITIONAL TALKS FOR A NEW AGREEMENT. THE JAPANESE DELEGATION PAID A HIGH
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PRICE FOR THE AGREEMENT BY SIGNING A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WHICH SUPPORTS THE NORTH'S POSITIONS ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING REUNIFICATION, HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOUTH, AND TROOP WITHDRAWALS. AS THE DELEGATION DEPARTED PYONGYANG, A JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN DISASSOCIATED HIS GOVERNMENT FROM THE JOINT STATEMENT, COMMENTING THAT IT RUNS COUNTER TO OFFICER GOJ POLICY.

7. SOVIET REACTION TO NORTH KOREAN MILITARY SEA BOUNDARY (CONF).

A SOVIET MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY MOSCOW AUGUST 31 THAT THE USSR WILL TAKE A "FIRM STAND" AGAINST THE "SUBSTANCE" OF PYONGYANG'S ASSERTION OF ITS MILITARY SEA BOUNDARY AT NEXT YEAR'S LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. THE OFFICIAL CLAIMED THAT MOSCOW HAS TRIED FOR YEARS TO DISSUADE THE NORTH KOREANS FROM ANNOUNCING THE BOUNDARY AND THAT THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN PYONGYANG WILL ASK THE NORTH KOREANS FOR A "CLARIFICATION" OF THEIR DECLARATION. VANCE

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED PORT MORESBY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
DecapTION Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
DecapTION Note:
Disposition Action: Released in Full
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: 200601218
Disposition Comment: RECORDING OF CLASSIFICATION/RECLASSIFICATION ACTION IN SAS (STATE ARCHIVING SYSTEM) BY THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITY FOR THIS ACTION, WHO HAS APPROVED RECLASSIFICATION AND OR EXTENSION ACTION ON THIS DOCUMENT.
Disposition Date: 29-Aug-2008 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: Released in Full by MURRAY ZINOMAN on 29-AUG-08 ;
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE215842
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: STAFF:JCM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770326-1031
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770980/aaaacpoj.tel
Line Count: 158
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fc3c9849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1329795
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE FROM: EA/K - MR. MAYHEW
TAGS: PINT, EFIS, ETRD, PDIP, KS, KN, JA, UR, US
To: EA POSTS PORT MORESBY
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc3c9849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009